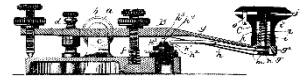




Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2017, No. 3

March 2017

Radio Fiesta 2017 a Success!



Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, answering a question during his presentation on The Ins and Outs of Single Side Band at the SARC meeting on Feb 8, 2017



Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, SARC, presenting Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, a Program Certificate of Achievement for his excellent presentation

Grounding for Amateur Radio

Our next club meeting will be at 7:00 p. m. (1900) on Thursday, March 9, 2017, 2016, at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. The program will be a presentation on *Grounding for Amateur Radio* by Harold Fleischer, AE5AS. Come early and join us for supper.

Ins and Outs of SSB

At the 7:00 p. m. meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216, the program was on the Ins and Outs of Single Side Band Radio. Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, was the presenter for this program.

Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, covered how Single Side Band (SSB) radio transmission differed from AM and FM radio. SSB takes an AM signal and filters out either the upper band or lower band depending on the frequency. The half sent provides enough information that speech is still intelligible and very good two way conversations can be done. It is also a more efficient use of the available radio spectrum.

There were several key reports at this meeting. The first key report was by the Treasurer, Brad Crabtree, K5FRQ. His report reflected the financial results of Radio Fiesta 2017, which were beneficial to the San Antonio Radio Club.

The second and third key reports were by Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW. The Board of Directors would be meeting on the budget for the March 1, 2017 through February 28, 2018 budget year after the general membership meeting. He also reported on the Amateur Extra Class that he was conducting. He has the more students in an Extra class that he has ever had before. There are two

(Continued on Page 6)

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
3	R		AE5AS		San Antonio, TX		Mar.

TO
W5SC

This has been a pretty busy month for the Education and Training Committee and the Volunteer Examiners (VEs) Committee. Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, taught the last three of four sessions for the Amateur Extra Class. As reported elsewhere in the **Bexar Wire**, this is the largest class of Extra students that he has ever had. The VEs showed up in force to conduct the examination. Everyone who took this class either passed or came very close such that they should pass on their next attempt (one already has). The next Saturday, the VEs were back at work at the Great Northwest Library. This session attracted 15 candidates for testing. Again, as reported elsewhere in the **Bexar Wire**, this was a successful event. While SARC can take credit for providing the pathways for initial licensing or upgrades, in the end the real success belongs to those who cracked the books and passed the examinations. Congratulations to all of them!

February is budget month per our Consitution and By-Laws for the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee accomplished their task of recommending one. Since I am Chairperson of the Executive Committee, I do not want to pat the Executive Committee for a job well done, but the Board of Directors appreciated the logic presented to them and approved the budget as presented. A copy of the budget should be attached to the same email by which you get this issue fo the Bexar Wire. This is your club so you deserve to know the budget numbers. While writing about money, a few words on the financials for Radio Fiesta 2017. The revenues, expenses, and net profit numbers were share with all members at the February 9, 2017. The numbers are not in the minutes because the published minutes are public. However, if you were not at the meeting and want to know what they are, just telephone me. Again, this is your club so you deserve to know the Radio Fiesta 2017 numbers.

Hmm. Field Day is rapidly approaching. We all need to give Joe Bruno, W5AUQ a hand with this.



AE5AS

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:
San Antonio Radio Club

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The due date for articles is the Friday before the first Monday of the month.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p. m. at Grady's BAR-B-Q, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then introduced himself as Harold AE5AS and then in accordance with SARC custom asked everyone else to introduce themselves.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then turned the meeting over at 7:05 p. m. to Mike Harrison, KB5KST, Vice President, who introduced the program. The program was presented by Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, about the Ins and Outs of Single Side Band. Mike Harrison, KB5KST, thanked Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, and turned the meeting at 8:00 p. m. back over to Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, who immediately presented Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, with a Program Certificate of Appreciation.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then reviewed the printed agenda for meeting with the members present and asked if there were any modifications. There being no modifications suggested, Harold Fleischer AE5AS announced the printed agenda as orders for the meeting by unanimous consent.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then stated that whereas the minutes for the last meeting on January 12, 2017 had been distributed in the February 2017 Bexar Wire newsletter that unless there were corrections or objections that we would dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as written by unanimous consent.

President

Appointments

Membership: Tom O'Brien AB5XZ

Radio Fiesta: JC Smith, N5RXS

Need a Newsletter Editor

Need a Webmaster

Vice President – Future Program: The March 8, 2017 program will be *Grounding for Amateur Radio* by Harold Fleischer, AE5AS.

Secretary – Transition has happened.

Treasurer – Financial Report.

Membership renewals for \$15.

Newsletter Editor - The February 2017 newsletter was sent out by Brad Crabtree, K5FRQ.

Webmaster – David Espinoza, W5QS, is in Philadelphia, and has resigned as webmaster because he objected to the President's stated objective of having the website current and relevant.

Priority to posting meeting announcement and newsletter.

Need pictures of Pat Knight, JC Smith and Joe Bruno for the website.

Chairman of the Board Report –Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, announced that the Board will meet after the General Membership Meeting to review the proposed budget by the Executive Committee and approve it as presented or as revised during the meeting. The Radio Fiesta 2017 lessons learned will be reviewed as well. Field Day 2016 lessons learned still need further review by the Board. Governance will be deferred until a Board meeting on March 8, 2017.

Committee Reports

Education and Training – Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, reported that the Extra Class is in progress with two more meetings successive Saturdays, Feb 11, and 18, 2017. The VEs will conduct the test for \$15 at 3:00 p. m. on February 18, 2017. At the request of the VE Committee, this session will be closed to all except those in this class.

Next class will be a Technician class. Currently, it is being planned for late March-early April.

More information will follow on exactly when and where.

Emergency Communications –JC Smith, N5RXS, stated that there will be a Weather seminar on March 11, 2017. The fee for this is over \$90. Contact JC, N5RXS, if you are interested.

Further, the Severe Weather SKYWARN conference will be on April 22, 2017 at the University of Incarnate Word.

Executive – No meetings since last month, but it did coordinate a budget recommendation for the budget for the Board of Directors meeting after this meeting.

Field Day - Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, chairs had no report this month. He and Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, will be working on designs for the Field Day Patch Panel for presentation to the Board during March 2017.

Finance and Review – Inactive until next January.

JOTA – Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, had no report since JOTA is next fall.

Membership – Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, reported the final 2016 number was 103. We are now in the midst of renewals for 2017, and the day before Fiesta we had 65 members for 2017. We have more members now because of those that we picked up at Fiesta.

Nothing more has been done on the identification of new hams per the FCC data base.

Nominating (Inactive-no appointments)

Radio Fiesta –

Key Counts:

We sold out of tables before we opened. Normally, we have a dozen tables or so still available at the start of Radio Fiesta.

We had 10 Dealers with 36 of 37 of the Dealer Allocated Tables sold.

We had 1 Dealer Table for MARS. They liked the location.

There are 75 tables in the Flea Market Area with 71 bought by Flea Market Table buyers after we set up 3 more tales.

We had AARO, QCWA, SARO, and TX VHF-FM Society sharing 2 tables in the flea market area.

The last two tables in flea market area were used for SARC Club Sales and were next to Richard Elder's personal tables.

We have 1 pre-registered extra Tailgate space sold.

We probably had 10-12 tailgaters.

We have 112 Pre-Registered General Admissions.

We have 418 General Admissions at the door.

We sold an additional 533 raffle tickets.

We had 30 Pre-Registered SARC Volunteer Workers and picked up a few more that day.

We had 13 Pre-Registered Complementary Admissions for program speakers and ARRL representatives.

We had four on-line postings: ARRL, CQ, eHam.net, and Craigslist.

Key lessons learned:

- The solicitation plans for dealers, flea market table buyers, pre-registered general admission, and invited guests, e. g., ARRL, basically worked.
- The check-in plan for flea market tables did not work as planned. Although all acknowledgment emails said Saturday morning setup, a lot showed up on Friday afternoon. Processes need to be changed to reflect that including having change on hand.
- The general location of the Flea Market Tables in the center of the room was worked.
- Some dealers are downright territorial on where they set up. Left up to me, I would probably not invite one of the dealers again.
- Work Assignment sheets basically worked well although it was deficient when it came to back door security during Radio Fiesta. In conjunction with the instruction sheets and pre-brief at the last meeting, work operations generally went smooth.
- A Security Coordinator for the Main Hall is needed separate from the Tailgate Coordinator.
- The Raffle and Door Prize Operation was all that one could expect.
- The General Admission Table was all that one could expect.

- The Pre-Registration Table was tough, but the Volunteer assigned to it rose to the occasion. The Assistant Treasurer pitched in and handled memberships. That should be an assigned duty of the Treasurer next year.
- The Program operated on a no sweat basis.
- The VE testing operated on a no sweat basis.
- The Tailgate area operated on a no sweat basis.
- The HT radios worked well. People were able to pull my chain when needed.
- The importance of Volunteers cannot be overemphasized. The Volunteers made Radio Fiesta happen when it came down to execution.

Financially, we made money.

Our Radio Fiesta 2018 date of January 13, 2018 was confirmed with the Schertz Convention Center on Monday, Feb 6, 2017.

VEC – There were 11 new hams, 9 Technicians and 2 Generals, and 6 upgrades, 4 General and 2 Extras, at Radio Fiesta 2017.

The special test session for the Extra Class on February 18, 2017 is closed to outsiders due to the number of students in that class taking up most of the space.

The next regularly scheduled session is 10:00 a. m. on February 25, 2017 at the Great Northwest Library.

Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) - Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, reported that one of the downtown locations that he was scouting is going to be torn down so he is looking at other options.

CW Training (Temporary) – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, had no report this month, but he wants to get it going soon.

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Announcements For The Good of Amateur Radio

Tom O'Brien, AA5RB, announced that fellow member Cray Lester, K5MUG, is ill.

Adjournment

Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW

for Bob Thompson, K5RWT

Secretary

ARRL Survey



ARRL is conducting an on-line survey seeking opinions for a possible new entry license. This is an opportunity to make your views known.

The URL to get to it is:

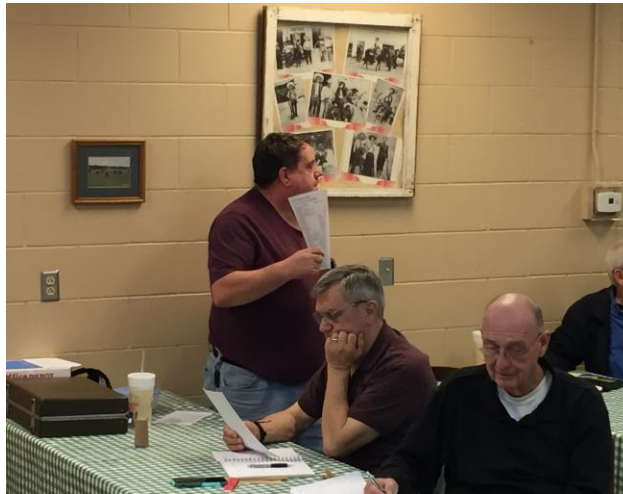
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-opinions-concerning-possible-new-entry-level-license>

This is a pretty big URL. Another way to get to the survey is to go to the ARRL website ([arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)) and then search on the word *survey*. The first item in the results was *License*, which pertains to this subject. Click on the topic, and you should be on the survey page.

Ins and Outs of SSB

(Continued from Page 1)

sessions left, and the last session will finish up with the Extra license test given by the Volunteer Examiners.



Brad Crabtree, K5FRQ, presenting the Treasurer's report at the SARC meeting on February 8, 2017

The fourth report was a rather rapid fire one by Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, as Chairperson, Radio Fiesta 2017 that covered key counts, key lessons learned, and financial results. The details of his report are covered in the meeting minutes, but the last lesson learned bears repeating:

- The importance of Volunteers cannot be overemphasized. The Volunteers made Radio Fiesta happen when it came down to execution.



Room wide view of members at the SARC meeting on February 8, 2017 while Brad Crabtree, K5FRQ, is presenting the Treasurer's report

The fifth and last significant report was for the Volunteer Examiners Committee. Their every even month except December on the last Saturday is at 10:00 a. m., February 25, 2017, at the Great Northwest Library.

After this, the General Membership Meeting was adjourned, and the Board of Directors held their meeting.

Nine New Extra Hams

Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, conducted an Amateur Extra License Course on four successive Saturdays, January 28, 2017, February 4, 2017, February 11, 2017, and February 18, 2017 at the Christus Santa Rosa Medical Center at 2827 Babcock Road, San Antonio, Texas. This was the largest class for Amateur Extra that Bob, K5AUW, reported ever having. They used the Gordon West, W5YI General Class Book. As always, they taught the material so it would be understood and not simply the test.

Arrangements were made by Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, with Pat Knight, AD5BR, to bring a team of Volunteer Examiners to Christus Santa Rosa Medical Center at 3:00 p. m. on the last day to conduct testing as the final part of this Amateur Extra Class. Thirteen candidates took tests and nine passed the Amateur Extra License examination. The other four were very close, and one of them passed the Amateur Extra License examination a week later.

(Pictures on following page.)



Pictures from February 18, 2017 session of Amateur Extra Class with the last one students taking the Amateur Extra examination under the supervision of Volunteer Examiners



Volunteer Examiners at Work



Pat Knight, AD5BR, Chairperson, Volunteer Examination Committee, and seven other members of that committee gathered on Saturday, February 25, 2016, 10:00 a. m. at the Great Northwest Library for the regularly scheduled 4th Saturday of the even month test session. This test session is open to the public although pre-registration is encouraged.



License candidates (foreground) and Volunteer Examiners at the Great Northwest Library on February 27, 2016



Volunteer Examiners grading with license candidates in the background on February 27, 2016



Volunteer Examiner instructing license candidates on procedures on February 27, 2016



License candidates with Volunteer Examiners behind them at the Great Northwest Library on February 27, 2016

There was a total of 15 candidates at this session, which took about 2 hours to do. All candidates passed the examination they came to take with one exception (the Amateur Extra examination is not easy) and one person passed both the Technician and General examinations. All in all, it was a very good examination session. Offers of complimentary membership in the San Antonio Radio Club for the rest of the year were accepted by most who passed their examination and were not already members.

Amateur Radio Equipment Donations

SARC received the items over the last year. They have appeared in several issues of the **Bexar Wire** with the prices shown in those issues being the estimated value with eBay being a prime source for the value. SARC offered up these items at Radio Fiesta 2017 and sold some. The following is a list of the items still available. ***Make an offer!*** This listing has been updated to show what the *Marked Price* was for Radio Fiesta 2017 and the *Reserve Price*. It does not take very much imagination to figure out how much more amendable to entertaining your offer that SARC is now. Contain Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, with your offer.

SARC Amateur Radio Equipment Donation List			
Picture	Nomenclature	Marked/ Reserve Price	Not e
	Hammarlund HF+-6M Radio Receiver Model Number HQ-110 16.5" W x 9.5" H x 9.5"D	\$160.00/ \$120.00	
	Hallicrafters Transmitter Model HT-40 SN 102117 13.25" W x 7.25" H x 8.5" D	\$100.00/ \$60.00	

SARC Amateur Radio Equipment Donation List

Picture	Nomenclature	Marked/ Reserve Price	Not e
	EICO In Circuit Capacitor Tester Model 955 SN 13007 .1-50 MFD 5.75' W x 9.5" H x 5.5" D	\$25.00/ None – sell it	
	Micronta 43-Range Multitester 5.25" W x 6.5" H x 2.5" D in box w/ instructions w/ Black and Red Test Probes	\$25.00/ None – sell it	
	Knight P-2 SWB/Power Meter with Connected Transmission Line Interface Box	\$25.00/ None – sell it	
	Type CRP-53198 RF Filter Assembly	\$10.00/ None – sell it	

Ham Tailgate Swap Meet

Sponsored by Hangar 18 Surplus



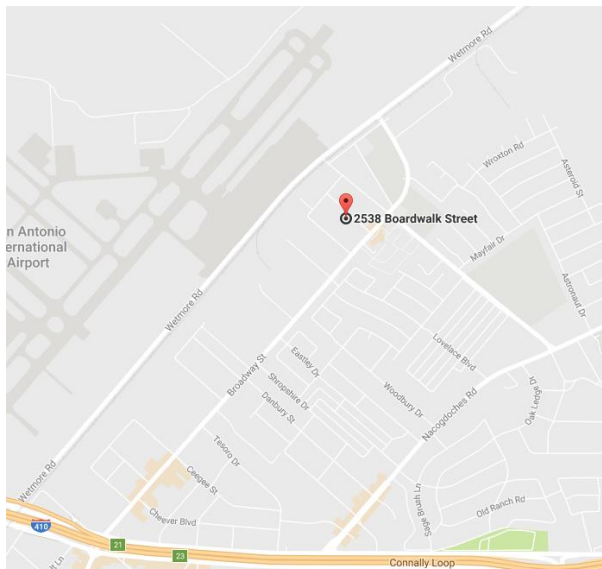
**Saturday, March 18, 2017, from 7 a. m. until 10:00 a. m.
Coffee and Donuts**



Location: Hangar 18 Surplus
2538 Boardwalk
San Antonio, TX 78227

Hangar 18 Surplus carries a wide selection of coax adapters, cables, and the \$1.00/pound electronic chassis/things to be repaired. For the Ham Tailgate Swap Meet, Hangar 18 Surplus will also have a trailer with a selection of used, empty transit cases suitable for use by Hams as GO-KITS and outdoor cabinets suitable for use by Hams for antenna tuners. The cases will be priced at \$1.00/pound.

Hangar 18 Surplus has many embroidered hats and shirts available from an additional product line in which they also do business.



SUPER SALE at Radio Shack

The few remaining Radio Shack stores are running a sale with 40-80% off normal prices. It looks like a clearance sale enroute to closing these stores. With such mark-downs, goods will fly off the shelf. If you are interested, you should check it out ASAP.

Yahoo Groups

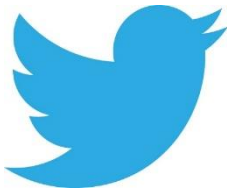


SARC has had a Yahoo Group for a number of years now. Its name is W5SC.

W5SC is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the W5SC Yahoo Group can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

W5SC is a closed group. To become a member, go to groups.yahoo.com. (You may need to have a Yahoo account.) This will take you to a website where your groups, if any, are shown with a Search Group box at the top. Enter W5SC. This will take you to the search results page with W5SC on it. Select W5SC to go to the W5SC Yahoo Group. You will then need to select + *Join Group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the W5SC in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

As Radio Fiesta 2018 work has not yet commenced, the @ARadioFiesta is currently in standby mode for the January 13, 2018 Radio Fiesta.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encourage to follow this Facebook Page.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: webmaster@w5sc.orgt

Amateur Radio License Classes

Planning for a Technician Course is underway. It is expected that details will be announced in the near future.

For more information, contact:
Bob Rodriguez K5AUW, Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for next 12 Months

March 9, 2017
April 13, 2017
May 11, 2017
June 8, 2017
July 13, 2017
August 10, 2017
September 14, 2017
October 12, 2017
November 9, 2017
December (None)
January 11, 2018
February 8, 2018

Meetings are held at Grady's Barbeque,
327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX
78216 at 7:00 p. m.

Come early and eat with other members coming early.

License Testing Dates for 2017 and early 2018

April 22, 2017
June 24, 2017
August 26, 2017
October 28, 2017
January 13, 2018
February 24, 2018

Times and locations along with required document information can be found on SARC's website.

SARC does all its licensing testing as a part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) organization so all the Volunteer Examiners in SARC are duly authorized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

Field Day 2017

Setup: Friday, June 22, 2017
Operations: Saturday, June 24, 2017
& Sunday, June 25, 2017

Where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.

More information to follow, but hold these dates.

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air

This year's date is Oct 21, 2017. The plan is to again hold it at the Texas Transportation Museum.

For more information, contact:
Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW

Radio Fiesta 2018

January 13, 2018
Schertz Civic Center
See newsletter article for more information

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS